



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2015 ham public service schedule.

Also see [page 19](#) for more info.

RARS General Meeting

Topic: What is Electromagnetic Compatibility and why it is important for radio operators.

Presented by Jay Diepenbrockc (KM4EP)

Date: May 12, 2015

Time: Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Informal gathering and refreshments from 7 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh

New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

[See page 21 for more information.](#)

President's Message

RARSfest is behind us. Thanks to all who helped make this a success. You may have seen members at: entrances, on stage, roaming around, helping with forums, Friday diner and in booths. There are a lot of faces you didn't see: members who arranged the event with a lot of e-mails and telephone calls, advanced ticket sales and advertising, interfacing with the Fairgrounds personnel and set-up people. A lot of time and knowledge was provided by folks who wanted to make RARSfest the best it could be for RARS members and the ham community. And, they have been doing this for years! This is part love

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RARS Officers

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: **Second** Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the **first** Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non- members, friends, and family. Feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check www.rars.org for details on the next dinner's location.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

President's Message continued

and part commitment. RARSfest was still short people, so many of the members had to do double duty or worked the entire time of the RARSfest. The Pareto Principle of 20/80 (20% of the people doing 80% of the work) has infected RARS. The antidote is involvement.

Event organizers have come to depend on our Public Service efforts for communication – they need us. Part of ham radio is service to the community and provides positive visibility to Amateur Radio. If we want our neighbors, town, and county to have a good impression and support AR, we need to provide them with exposure to the contribution we make to the community.

The basic preparation for Field Day is taking shape with some changes that can improve the member experience. It is routinely called “not a contest.” It is difficult to define something by what it is not. I call it what it is, “a challenge” – a challenge to do the best we can in communicating with other Amateur Radio Operators. It is not important that we get more points than other clubs or even what we did in previous years. It *is* important that we made our *best* effort this year. To meet that challenge we need people on the radio, logging, setting up and taking down. Field Day is the weekend of June 27. Help us meet the challenge.

Murray Merner, K4MHM
Amateur Radio, pass it on.

RARS New Members

Steven Kovacs	KE4QBH
Tom Hillery	KG4EDY
Robert Twiss	KM4JDW
Mark Barden	KM4JDX
Ryan Weber	KM4JDY
Stephen Stokes	KM4JDZ
James Smith, Jr.	KM4JEA
Mihir Shah	KM4JEB
Robert Pollock	KM4JEC
David Johnson	KM4JED
Aaron Howard	KM4JEE
Jeffrey Hooper	KM4JEF
Robert Freuler	KM4JEG
Timothy Eschedor, Jr	KM4JEH
Timothy Eschedor	KM4JEI
David Deth	KM4JEJ
Michael Day	KM4JEK
Stanley Cich	KM4JEL
Christopher Cich	KM4JEM
Judith Carlino	KM4JEN
Alvin Atkinson	KM4JEO
Sharon Henderson	KM4JEZ
David Bergwall	KM4JPN
Todd Braswell	KM4JPO
Jay Dennis	KM4JPQ
Jennifer Howard	KM4JPS
Eric Johnson	KM4JPT
James McGaughey	KM4JPV
Angela Parrish	KM4JPW
Jason Smith	KM4JPZ
Anthony Love	KM4JQZ
Mark Kilmer	KM4JRH

RARS May Birthdays

James	KM4GDQ	05/03
Matt	KK4KLV	05/03
Glenn	K4ABN	05/04
John	KJ4JAS	05/04
Ron	KJ4DNS	05/04
Larry	KG4FIQ	05/05
Liz	KO4CK	05/05
Larry	W4WIV	05/05
John	K3RHJ	05/06
Hank	K4HM	05/08
Wayne	K6TWX	05/08
Brian	KA9QJT	05/10
Nancy	KB1HIX	05/10
Bob	NC1X	05/11
Brian	KM4IFP	05/11
Chuck	AE4CD	05/12
Joe	KK4KZQ	05/12
Wally	NC1NC	05/15
Chris	KE4TMO	05/17
Cam	KU4VY	05/17
Frank	W4NPN	05/17
Bill	AK4BL	05/20
Larry	K1ZW	05/20
Bob	KB4RGC	05/21
Lyn	WA4GEH	05/24
Joe	K4UOO	05/24
Fred	NC4FB	05/26
Courtney	KI4HOS	05/27

Education Director

The General course is scheduled to start May 9 and will have follow-up sessions on: May 16, 30 and Jun 6 (note we do not meet on May 23). Time is from 8:00 to 12:30. An optional exam will be at 1:30 p.m. on Jun 6. The Technician license can be satisfying and beneficial. However, the General license will give a lot more transmitting frequencies and

expand your knowledge of Amateur Radio. To pre-register, e-mail education@rars.org with your name, call sign, phone number and a registration form will be e-mailed to you. Four Saturday mornings and some studying and you can have a General license. A second Technician course is scheduled to start Jul 11.
Murray Merner, K4MHM

RARS Classifieds

Copied from www.rars.org/classifieds.php

The item below was listed within the last 30 days.

IC-91AD D-star handheld for sale by K4GOE, Greenville, NC

Posted April 17th, 2015 by: W4YDY

Contact: w4ydydave@suddenlink.net

IC-91AD D-star handheld for sale. It is in mint condition, having been used very little. It was bought when I lived in the Columbia, SC area where there were 5 D-star repeaters, but I very soon moved to Greenville, NC from there and it has just sat around. It does also work on standard FM repeaters, but I also had a Yaesu FT-60 and I use it exclusively for local work. I know there are no D-star repeaters in the area except for Rocky Mount and Raleigh, but someone may want that capability or know someone who does. It works on 2 meters and 440 both FM and D-star digital and receives several other bands too. I am asking \$350 for it after looking around on the internet at going prices. It originally sold for more than \$600. Included with the IC-91AD are the following: Instruction manual, Quick Reference booklet, Configuration disk, Programming cable, Wall charger, Drop-in charger and Car charger.

Al Mullis, K4GOE, 252-940-0510, k4goe@arrl.net

Amateur Radio **General Class** License Course
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
RARS.org

Original Announcement Date: April 9, 2015

A four session **General Class License Course** (Level 2) will be conducted by the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. (You must have a Technician Class license (first level of licensure), in order to take the General Class exam.)

When: May 9, 16 (not 23), 30, Jun 6. The sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end around 12:30 p.m.

Where: Cary, NC. Specific location will be provided upon pre-registration.

Volunteer Instructor: Mike Murphy, WA4BPJ, has an Extra Class license and has been teaching since the 1970s and has conducted as many as 60 courses. In addition to this course, he also teaches the Technician and Amateur Extra courses.

Tuition: \$10.00

Course Text: The required manual is the current edition of: The **ARRL Ham Radio License Manual - Level 2 General, 7th Edition** (ISBN: 978-0-87259-811-9) and is available online (i.e. ARRL, Amazon, etc.).

Examination: An optional examination is scheduled for the student's convenience in the afternoon of the last session. The exam is conducted by the RARS Volunteer Examiners. There is a separate fee.

Pre-Registration: E-mail me with your **phone number** and **call sign**. A registration form and other details will be e-mailed to you.

This course is also listed on the ARRL Website at "Find a Class."

Next Course: The **Technician Class course** (4 sessions) is tentatively scheduled to start: Jul 11.

You are probably on a contact list. E-mail me if you want to be deleted from this list.

Murray Merner, K4MHM
RARS Original Education Director
Education@rars.org
919-803-7973

2015 RARSfest

By Charles Good, KM4ATM

On Saturday April 4, 2015, our club hosted the 43rd Annual RARSFest and ARRL NC State Convention at the Jim Graham Building on the NC State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. This year's event was bigger and better than previous years with an increase in general admission attendance and the number and diversity of dealer booths. Other highlights include the following:

- Friday night's supper had a slightly bigger turn out than last year. Great fun, food, and fellowship. Thanks to ALL there was lots of volunteer help.
- ARRL had plenty of representation at RARSfest! Attendees enjoyed supper, the Roanoke Division and NC Section Forums. Ed Hare, from ARRL Headquarters, received plenty of questions at his RFI Forum and at the ARRL Booth. Bill, K4CIA was busy checking QSL cards for awards.
- The RARS Amateur Licensing Team administered over 40 license exams with over a 90% pass rate.
- Several new hams took advantage of mentors on acquiring radio gear to build their stations.
- Besides having more dealer booths, we also had more vendors in the Flea Market area than last year. Some new [to RARSfest] dealers want to return next year.
- The RARS Club Table was very busy finding homes for an excess of estate gear.
- Compared with last year, we had more people take advantage of our project table and Skywarn training.
- The RARS CW Learning Station, hosted by Joanne Mars, AK4RJ saw lots of young and seasoned folks trying their hand at sending code.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the tireless dedication of volunteers who worked at various stations throughout the event. We especially want to thank John Snellen (AI4RT) for serving another year as the event coordinator/chair and the following RARS members who serve as committee leads and spent months working with John

[Continued on next page](#)

and their team members preparing for this event (and ensuring everything ran smoothly on the big day).

Team	Team Leader	Team Lead E-mail	Team Description
Security	Dennis Keith	NC4DK	This is the largest crew. Their main job is to provide information and assistance to those attending the hamfest.
Admissions	Bob Chapman	NC1X	Another big crew, second only to Security. They sold admission tickets and served as greeters and ticket collectors as attendees come in.
Setup	Bernard Blackmon	W4BRB	This is the third largest crew. They prepared the layout before we could give the vendors access to their tables, then work with the vendors right up till the doors open to the public on Saturday.
	Dick Orander	KD4ISC	
Social	Mary Jo Littlewood	K4MJL	This crew sets up and manages the banquet room for the Friday evening dinner. Some helped with the dinner and some helped clean up and re-arrange tables after the dinner.
Flea Market	Jeff Wittich	AC4ZO	This team checked in folks, assigning tables, etc.
Stage/Talk-In (Comm Center)	Ian Hewitt	N0IAN	<p>This team made announcements over PA, fielded questions, tended to the door prize ticket barrel, and work the help desk, etc.</p> <p>The "Talk In" operated on Friday from Noon until 8 pm and on Saturday from 6 am until 4 or 5 pm. The Comm Center also keeps a rig on for internal hamfest administrative communications.</p>

[Continued on next page](#)

Team	Team Leader	Team Lead E-mail	Team Description
Teardown	Dave Thomas	K4SAN	This crew is also known as the Dumpster Divers. When everyone else clears out, there may be some tables that need to be moved around to help dealers get out of the building. Then comes the tear down, clean up and disposal of any spoils that are left behind.
Teardown	Dave Thomas	K4SAN	This team assists our guests as they assemble antennas and other projects.
Project Table	Alan Pitegoff	AB4OZ	This team assists our guests as they assemble antennas and other projects.
RARS Member Sales Tables	C. J. Orr	NC4CJ	This team makes it easier for club members to work at the hamfest and leave items here to be sold while they work.

Based on how well everything went, there will be a RARSfest 2016, which we hope will be even bigger and better than 2015. To do this, we will need more members to volunteer. We also want to train more people to be committee leads so we have backups and a succession plan to ensure this event continues for years to come. Please watch for future announcements about opportunities to get involved and help us “grow and flourish.” Stay tuned for the RARSfest 2016 date (it will probably be a week or two after Easter weekend). *Please refer to pages 6 through 8 in our April Exciter newsletter for photos from the RARSfest and the following pages.*

2015 RARSfest Pictures



2015 RARSfest Pictures



RARSfest pictures by N4TL There are many more [on-line](#)

Future RARS 2015 Meeting Topics

June 9, Field Day update. By Dennis Keith, NC4DK

July 14, Raspberry Pi. By Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW

August 11, Uninterruptible power supplies (UPS).

By Mike Jackson from Eaton Corporation

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

2015 Hamfests and conventions

05/09/2015 | [Rockingham County ARC Swapfest](#)

Location: Reidsville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.n4iv.org>

May 15-17 -- [Dayton Hamvention®](#),
Dayton, Ohio

05/16/2015 | [FreeGate 2015](#)

Location: Greensboro, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Qorvo Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.kd4rf.org>

05/23/2015 DurHamFest

Location Bahama NC

Website: <http://dfma.org>

06/13/2015 | [Winston-Salem Hamfest](#)

Location: Winston-Salem, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4nc.com>

07/11/2015 | [30th Annual Firecracker Hamfest](#)

Location: Salisbury, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rowan Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.rowanars.org>

07/18/2015 | [Mid-Summer SWAPFEST](#)

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc>

09/05/2015 | [Roanoke Division Convention \(Shelby Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

MINUTES

General Membership Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society April 14, 2015

1. Call to order: Murray K4MHM called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. There were 45 people in attendance which constituted a quorum.
2. Approval of minutes. The minutes of the general membership meetings of March 10, 2015 were approved as presented.
3. Introduction of new members and guests: Cliff KA7NSU, Al NC4AL, Todd KA2DEW, Johnnie WA9SZL, Mark KM4JDX, Michael Burns, Kyle Thorson, Bert N4CW and Jim W4TMD.
4. Health and Welfare: Nothing to report
5. Vice President's Report:
6. Secretary's report (Bob K4YXM) no report
7. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): RARS currently has 375 members. If anyone has any questions regarding assets and liabilities, please contact Greg KE4PAX or Murray K4MHM for additional information.
8. Reports and announcements from RARS Board members and others:
 - a. Public Service: John referred people to the web site for a list of public service events and urged them to sign up.
 - b. Education: Murray reminded people that the next General class is starting on May 9th.
 - c. NC QSO party: Marty reported that 328 logs were submitted and that all 100 counties were activated.
 - d. Repeaters: Karl W4CHX noted that programming for the 444.525 repeater will be ready this week and the machine will then be installed at Bayleaf site. .
 - e. ARRL NC Section Manager: Karl W4CHX thanked everyone for their efforts in helping to advance amateur radio, especially in the area of public service. He asked everyone to be active in defending our radio spectrum. Karl announced that Charles has been appointed an information officer for the NC section.

- f. Field Day: Dennis NC4DK reported progress and reminded people it will be on weekend of June 27 this year.
9. Other Business and Announcements: Murray noted that the Board is discussing club shirts - considering Polo shirts with a pocket, logo and one color. More information will be forthcoming
10. Gift Raffle: Winners were: JackW4MZY. Bill KM4JDX. Harry KA7NSU, Greg KE4PAX. Tom K2UCU and Johnnie WA9SZL
11. Program: "The Elecraft KX3" by Bert N4CW
12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:58 PM. Murray asked all new members to come to the front of the room so all could greet them personally.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob K4YXM

RARS Secretary.



Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting Raleigh Amateur Radio Society March 24, 2015

Present: Chuck K4HF, Tom N4TL, Bill AK4BL, Murray K4MHM, Charles KM4AMT, John AI4RT, Greg KE4PAX, Dennis NC4DK, Karl W4CHX
Regrets: Hank K4HM, Joanne AK4RJ, Raymond KK4OOQ, CJ NC4CJ
Guest: Alan AB4OZ

1. Call to order (Murray K4MHM): The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.
2. A quorum was present.
3. Approval of minutes (Murray K4MHM): The minutes of the March 2, 2015 meeting were approved as corrected.
Action: Murray to revise minutes as approved.
4. The agenda was approved as submitted
5. Vice President's report (Tom N4TL): Tom provided an update on upcoming meeting topics. World Radiosport Team Championship by N4YDU has been rescheduled for September. A Show and Tell is tentatively planned for November. Presentations for July and August are being worked on.
6. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Greg reported that RARS has 369 members. There have been 5 new members in March, and there were 12 complimentary memberships from the 2/10/15 test session. A summary of RARSfest income and expenses was provided. If anyone has questions regarding the club's financial status, they should contact Greg KE4PAX or Murray K4MHM directly. A draft of the 2015/2016 budget is scheduled to be reviewed at the April Board meeting.
7. Secretary's report (Bob K4YXM): No report.
Health and Welfare: Jack Foster, N6UYB, back home from hospital
8. Committee reports:
 - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): Upcoming Events: 4/4/15 CBC Spring Fling Morrisville, same day as RARSFest is creating recruiting challenge, could use 6 more volunteers; 4/11/15 MS Walk PNC Arena – radio used for aid and comfort, need 4-5 volunteers; 5/3/15 Raven Rock Ramble, new event, 100 mile bike ride, Harris Lake Park, volunteers needed. Public Service events are added to the RARS website a few weeks before the event, as well as being listed in the Exciter. There was a discussion about new hams not volunteering for public service events, as well as a discussion about what prompted new hams interest in amateur radio.
 - b. Education Director (Murray K4MHM): There were 34 students enrolled in the Technician Level training class that ended on 3/14/15. There were 22 students that took the Technician exam, 20 passed, and 2 passed the General exam. There will be another Technician class, two

General classes, and an Extra class before the end of the year. Murray indicated that study/training materials may be placed on the RARS website for student access during the classes. It was suggested that other online tools may be used, such as Google Classroom. Action: Murray to investigate on-line tools.

- c. Public Information Officer (Charles KM4AMT): The RARS informational brochure should be printed and available for RARSfest. Charles had asked last month if RARS had a Facebook account. Dennis NC4DK indicated that Justin AJ4MJ had setup an account and that he and Justin had moderator privileges. It was clarified that this is not an official RARS site.
- d. Immediate Past President (CJ NC4CJ): No report.
- e. Director-at-Large (Bill AK4BL): Bill initiated a discussion about member involvement at club meetings and other club activities. Bill also indicated that nothing was new on the Maker Faire web site. There was a discussion about Maker Faire to prepare for a 2015 event, if it does happen. It was suggested that Bill contact amateur radio participants from last year to see if they were willing to partner again in sponsoring a booth in 2015. Karl W4CHX indicated that NC State Library's was a major sponsor in 2014, and that contacts at NC State may have more information on a 2015 event. The fairgrounds still has it on its calendar.
- f. Director-at-Large (Raymond KK4OOQ): No report. Murray K4MHM indicated that Raymond was working on a new sign-in form, and that Raymond had also created a 1" x 2 5/8" RARS label, which could be used on flyers, or to cover the mailing label on QSTs. The Board voted to allow Raymond to expense up to \$50 on label printing.
- g. ARRL liaison Chuck K4HF: No report.
- h. ARRL NC Section Mgr. (Karl W4CHX): No Report
- i. Scouting Coordinator (Charles KM4AMT): Charles indicated that he and Murray were working on a scouting page on the RARS website - <http://www.rars.org/scouting/>. They are investigating opportunities to assist scouts with obtaining merit badges. Merit badge counselors are needed.
- j. FM Repeater Chair (Karl W4CHX): Repeaters are actively being worked on.
- k. Exciter Chair (Tom N4TL): Tom provided thanks to those that assisted with the March Exciter in his absence. He also indicated that he needs Exciter input a minimum of ten days before the membership meeting to meet the target that the Exciter be available one week before the general membership meeting,.
- l. Food Service Chair (Joanne AK4RJ). No report.
- m. Webmaster (Hank K4HM): Hank indicated that he has updated the program schedule script for the main page to include remaining programs for the calendar year, and that he has updated several pages and scripts on the RARSfest section of the website.
- n. RARS Fest: (vacant): John reported that RARSFest 2015 will be on April 4th. The 5th planning meeting was held on 3/24/15, things are coming together and current numbers look positive, with increased sales. The 2016 date has not been confirmed, but it will not be Easter weekend.
- o. Field Day Chair (Dennis NC4DK): Field Day 2015 will be on June 27-28. Dennis indicated he expected some changes that will allow participants more opportunity to rotate through the bands. He indicated that food will be similar as last year, and there is need for a GOTA volunteer. Karl W4CHX indicated that he attended 10 Field Day sites in 2014, and that he has created a presentation on his visits. He will make the presentation available to Dennis, and possibly provide the presentation at the June RARS membership meeting.

- p. North Carolina QSO Party (Marty W4MY): No Report
- q. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report
- r. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): No report

9. Old business:

- a. Karl: Antenna advocacy efforts with City of Raleigh. No report
- b. Insurance of Repeater equipment: Karl W4CHX has compiled a list. Action: Greg is to submit the list to Insurance Company and establish coverage.
- c. RARSalert – communications to membership in the event of an emergency. The Board agreed that a web site message, as well as message on the 146.640 repeater would be the methods of communications. The RARSBoard-L e-mail list will be used to notify and involve the Board in the decision.
- d. Board members should continue to submit/update job descriptions and procedures.
- e. RARS Logo – It was recommended that a graphic illustrator be consulted to review the RARS Logo. Action: John AI4RT will work on the logo.

10. New business:

- a. RARS giving donation policy – This topic was tabled until next meeting.

11. The next Board of Directors meeting will be on April 21, 2015, third Tuesday as normal.

12. Adjournment (Murray K4MHM): The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Seamster, KE4PAX

In absence of Secretary



Current Public Service Opportunities

To volunteer for a Public Service event please complete the form at <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

The Ham Public Service Net meets on Wednesday at 7:30 pm on the Carolina 440 Link System. We use the following repeaters:

441.725(+)(100) – Raleigh, NC Hub
443.450 (+)(100) – Cane Mt., Snow Camp, NC
444.325 (+)(100) – Holly Springs, NC
444.375 (+)(100) - Henderson, NC
444.550 (+)(100) – Coats, NC
444.775 (+)(100 – Cary, NC
444.875 (+)(100) – Wendell, NC
145.330 (-)(100) – Goldsboro, NC
442.250 (+)(107.2) - McCain/Southern Pines, NC
444.200 (+)(179.9) - Johnsonville, NC
444.025 (+)(100) - Benson, NC
442.425 (+)(100) - Buxton, NC

(The net is also accessible through IRLP Reflector 9210)

The Ham Public Service Yahoo Group link is: [Ham Public Service North Carolina](#)

2015 RAVEN ROCK RAMBLE

May 3, 2015 - Sunday - Harris Lake County Park, New Hill, NC

The Raven Rock Ramble is a century (100-mile) bicycle ride that explores the four-county area (Wake, Harnett, Lee, and Chatham) around Raven Rock State Park. Proceeds from the event benefit the UNC Kidney Center for direct patient services. Ham volunteers are needed for Net Control, SAGs, Rest Stop Monitors and course monitors.

* Ham Coordinator: John Snellen (ai4rt)

* Event Website: [Raven Rock](#)

* Location: Harris Lake Co. Pk., 2112 County Park Dr., New Hill, NC 27562

* Ham Operators Meeting: 7:30 AM

* To Volunteer fill out the form at <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

CAM RELAY FOR LIFE

May 16, Saturday - Cary NC

A simplex walking event that benefits the American Cancer Society. Need 3 -4 hams for communications help from 7:00 am - 12 noon

* **To Volunteer fill out the form at** <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

2015 Ada TOUR DE CURE

May 16-17, 2015 - Sat/Sun - Cary to Southern Pines

A great multi-day event for the hard-core. Race goes from Cary to Southern Pines day 1, then from Southern Pines to Cary on day 2. They anticipate around 7-800 riders this year (a 35% increase). Which means lodging in Southern Pines will be at a premium. Recommended that folks make their reservations as early as possible.

* Ham Coordinator: Bill Cole (KG4CXY)

* Location: Garmin Headquarters, 100 Regency Forest Drive, Cary, NC

* Operators meeting at 6:30 am

* To volunteer go to: [Carolina Helping Hams](#)

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUMMER GAMES

May 29 & 30, 2015 - Friday & Saturday - Wake County, NC

Various events throughout Wake County... need 12 - 15 volunteers for Fri. and/or Sat.to provide communications to link 7 different locations.

* **To Volunteer fill out the form at** <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

MS ICE CREAM RIDE

June 20, 2015 - Saturday - Morrisville, NC

* **To Volunteer fill out the form at** <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

FIRECRACKER 50/100K

July 4th, 2015 - Saturday - Cary, NC

Out traditional 4th of July cycling event. Proceeds benefit the National MS Society.

* **To Volunteer fill out the form at** <http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

The most versatile pieces of equipment for working as a ham volunteer during public service events are as follows:

PRIMARY EQUIPMENT

- * Dual band (144/440) 25 watt (min) mobile transceiver
- * A 1/2-5/8 wave well-grounded dual band mobile antenna

EXTRAS THAT ARE HELPFUL

- * Dual Band (144/440) hand held transceiver
- * Extra set of charged batteries
- * Ear phones & speaker mic or boom mic/headphone set
- * Higher gain antenna than the supplied rubber duck. For example Comet BN-24 or SMA-24 or Diamond RHF40 or SRH77CA. There are also many other hi-gain HT antennas available.

Remember to keep those batteries charged and earplugs handy and check back to this site and [Carolina Helping Hams](#) frequently for upcoming events. Hope to see you during one of the events.

73,
John - AI4RT

Deepest Sympathies

From the News and Observer obituaries; RARS Life Member Nola Alderman, KD4OLZ passed away on April 29, 2015 . Nola was the wife of RARS Life Member Ed Alderman, WA4PEN (SK). Nola and Ed were founding members of RARS.

In accordance with our RARS Donation Policy, 50.00 dollars will be donated to the RARS Bitner (W8HYD) Youth Education Fund in the name of Silent Key Life Member Menola Sanford Alderman, KD4OLZ.

Kay McEwen, wife of Ken McEwen, KI4OTO passed away Friday, April 24. A memorial Service was held at the Capital Funeral Home, 2205 E. Millbrook Rd, Raleigh.

Upcoming Contests

CQ WPX Contest

For amateurs world wide to contact as many amateurs and prefixes as possible during the contest period. CW: May 30-31, 2015 Starts: 0000 UTC Saturday Ends: 2359 UTC Sunday. <http://www.cqwpw.com/index.htm>

June VHF contest

For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. The second full weekend in June. Begins 1800 UTC Saturday, runs through 0259 UTC Monday (June 13-15, 2015). <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

Field Day

Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Field Day 2015 is June 27-28.

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries. <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

*Note: Always check the official rules from the contest sponsor to find the actual dates. More information can be found at these websites.

www.arrl.org/contests www.hornucopia.com www.rars.org/ncqsoparty

<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>

New HAM / Elmer meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, Elmer Coordinator

The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARs meeting. We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help to hams in their first year of operation.

This month's topic will be HF radios, including some hands-on time! We plan to have a 30 year old ICOM solid state radio, and a current Yeasu FTdx3000 powered up and running with microphones, straight key and bencher paddle set. We can do some QSOs across the room using AM, SSB and CW. I don't think we'll be hooking up real antennas this time but it will be interesting to mess around with these radios.

Last month we did a show and tell on various types of coaxial cable and ladder line as well as connectors.

June's topic may be one of: Soldering and hand-tools, Antenna test and measurement, FM simplex and repeaters. Don't miss another meeting!

73 and see you on Tuesday. We'll either be in the main meeting room, or we'll have signs or somebody directing traffic at around 6pm to help you find us.

Tadd / KA2DEW

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Raleigh NC FM05pv

